

[8th February 1924]

The hon. the RAJA OF KOLLENGODE :—“ Sir, in regard to settled estates it is usual to consult the proprietors as a matter of courtesy. I don’t think they are bound to be consulted whenever a reduction or a change takes place.”

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—“ Sir, yesterday we asked the Revenue Member whether there are not large areas of villages in North Arcot district where regrouping of villages has deprived them of village officers, headmen, talaiyaris . . . ”

The hon. Sir CHARLES TODHUNTER :—“ On a point of order, Sir, this is question time and the hon. Member is making a speech.”

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—“ May I ask the hon. the Revenue Member to call for the details of information ? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF KOLLENGODE :—“ I would be glad to do so.”

Abolition of the Ramnad district.

287 Q.—Mr. P. K. S. A. ARUMUGA NADAR : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the revenue taluks of Sattur and Srivillipputtur of the present Ramnad district are to be amalgamated with the Tinnevelly district and the other zamindari taluks of the Ramnad district to be amalgamated with the Madura district, thus abolishing Ramnad district ; and
(b) if the answer be in the affirmative, when it will take effect ?

A.—No such proposal is at present under the consideration of Government.

Mr. P. K. S. A. ARUMUGA NADAR :—“ Sir, will the hon. the Revenue Member be pleased to state whether there is any prospect of such arrangements as mentioned in clause (a) ? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF KOLLENGODE :—“ I cannot say what is going to happen in future, Sir.”

Regrouping of villages.

288 Q.—Mr. K. KOTI REDDI : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(1) the number of villages resulting from the grouping and amalgamation of villages that has been recently carried out ; and
(2) the number of original villages out of which the above ‘ grouped ’ villages were created ?

A.—The Board of Revenue being the authority under the Village Service Acts, the Government have not the details asked for in their possession.

Court of Wards and Zamindars.

Estates under the Court of Wards.

289 Q.—Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(1) how many estates are now under the Court of Wards ;
(2) how many of them are encumbered and to what extent at present ;

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(3) the extent of the encumbrances of the several estates when they were taken over by the Court of Wards ; and

(4) when these estates will be free from encumbrances and be given back to the owners ?

A.—(1), (2) & (3) The hon. Member is referred to the Administration Reports of the Court of Wards which are regularly placed on the Editors' Table.

(4) The Government are unable to say when the liabilities of the encumbered estates will be cleared. The release of estates from the Superintendents of the Court of Wards will be regulated by the provisions of sections 54 to 57 of the Court of Wards Act.

The Sivaganga estate.

290 **Q.**—The RAJA OF RAMNAD: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Court of Wards administering the Sivaganga estate has contracted debts, and if so, to state the amount and the circumstances that led to it ; also to furnish the date when the debt was incurred or any loan contracted ?

A.—The hon. Member is referred to the answer to question No. 64.

The RAJA OF RAMNAD:—“ Sir, my question is not exactly as the interpellation referred to No. 64. I want to know exactly when and before what date these debts were incurred ? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF KOLLENGODE:—“ If it is the date that he wants I shall enquire, Sir.”

The RAJA OF RAMNAD:—“ I shall be much obliged if the hon. Member furnishes the information, Sir.”

Economic condition.

Damages caused by floods in South Kanara.

291 **Q.**—Rao Sahib U. RAMA RAO: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have collected any statistics with regard to the damages caused by floods in South Kanara ;

(b) if so, what is the number of houses which have collapsed or have been damaged by the floods ;

(c) what is the total area on which crops have been damaged by the floods ;

(d) what is the total area damaged by accumulation of sand and otherwise rendered unfit for cultivation ;

(e) what is the total extent (1) of one crop and (2) of double crop land damaged by the floods ;

(f) whether it is a fact that rich pattadars are to be excluded from the benefit of remission of revenue sanctioned on this account ;

(g) whether any rules have been drawn up by the Collector defining ‘ rich and poor ’ for purposes of remission and whether those rules have had the approval of Government ; and